

2010 Annual Report

Parks

Parks operations maintained more than 2,400 acres of public lands in 2010. This maintenance included 1,510 acres of turf, 240 acres of which are irrigated athletic fields and 930 acres of wooded or undeveloped public property. The division continued to provide a variety of outdoor recreation services as well as facility support for youth and adult sport organizations and other Park divisions and community event sponsors. Facilities under the stewardship of the Parks operations included 14 picnic shelters, 2 swimming pools and a beach, 50 softball and baseball fields, 14 volleyball courts, 26 soccer and football fields, 2 disc golf courses, 1 lighted cross country ski course, 8 skating rinks, 26 miles of trails, 76 playgrounds, 40 tennis and basketball courts, 2 animal exercise areas and a skate park.



TH 52 Landscape

Parks 2010 Highlights

- ◆ Whiting Landscape donated improvements to North Frank Canine Park
- ◆ Eagle Scout project installed osprey perch at Cascade Lake
- ◆ Department provided facility and production assistance for:
 - Rochesterfest
 - Pridefest
 - Polar Plunge
 - WinterFest
 - Arbor Day
 - Arts Strollathon
 - Nat'l Night Out
 - Community 4th July Celebration
 - Peace Plaza Events
 - Cardboard Box City
 - Litter Bit Better
 - Riverside Concerts
 - Thursdays on First
 - Triathlon
 - Water Ski Show
- ◆ June 17 storm / tornado leads to FEMA disaster declaration
- ◆ Overlay 1.0 mile of Bear Creek trail
- ◆ Rennovated Bamber Ridge Park playground



North Frank Canine Exercise Park Improvements

Parks 2010 Highlights cont.

- ◆ Trail and park maps revised and posted department web site
- ◆ Badger Hills storm pipe installed
- ◆ Jeff Englund, Crew Chief, retires
- ◆ Jeff Sorenson, Mechanic, retires
- ◆ City continues operation and maintenance of TH 52 irrigation and landscapes
- ◆ Obtained DNR trail grant for Ridgeview Manor-Weatherstone Parks connection to Douglas Trail.
- ◆ Quarry Hill pond restoration completed
- ◆ Essex Park building resided
- ◆ Watson Sport Complex plaza completed
- ◆ Northwoods League use agreement renewed
- ◆ Completed roofing Plummer House garage
- ◆ Cascade Lake Park berm along TH 14 completed
- ◆ Exchange Club shrine constructed in Soldier's Field
- ◆ Acquired Parkside Park along Marion Road SE
- ◆ Electric service / lighting renovated at Viking Park
- ◆ Replaced shingles on Central Park restroom building
- ◆ McQuillian shelter / tournament headquarters building constructed by RSA
- ◆ Mayo Field hosted 110 baseball games Hudson Field 93 games
- ◆ Park facilities hosted the following events in 2010:
 - Mens C Northern National Tournament
 - Eagles Cancer Softball Tournament
 - MSF State Fastpitch Tournament
 - Senior Mens Softball Tournament
 - Northwoods League Championship Series
 - NJCAA Division III National Fastpitch Championship
 - Minnesota State High School League Sec 1A, 1AA, 1AAA Baseball



Eagle Scout Osprey Perch Installation-Cascade Lake



TH 14 Trail Bridge

Forestry

The Forestry operations were responsible for the management of Rochester's comprehensive urban tree and landscape program. The program is responsible for the control of shade tree diseases such as Dutch elm disease and Oak Wilt, reforestation of city parks and boulevards, and routine maintenance of the City's 49,387 boulevard and 30,000 park trees. The division continued to administer the city's tall grass and weed ordinance, maintained the City's extensive recreational trail system, many of the city's landscaped areas and was once again charged with the maintenance of the CBD streetscape and seasonal decorations.



Bareroot Gravel Storage Area Constructed

Forestry 2010 Highlights

- ◆ Constructed bare root tree storage gravel bed
- ◆ Volunteers completed EAB inventory / assessment
- ◆ Co-hosted Rochester Arbor Day
- ◆ Rochester named Tree City USA 28 years / Growth Award 6 years
- ◆ 1,292 boulevard and park trees removed
- ◆ Hosted 7th Annual SE MN Arborist event
- ◆ 880 trees and prairie plants and shrubs were planted / 218 permits issued
- ◆ 780 tall grass / weed violation notices sent
- ◆ Received \$25,000 DNR tree planting grant
- ◆ Forestry personnel trimmed 3,217 trees
- ◆ Hosted Mn Green Corp employee for park tree inventory data collection
- ◆ Administered \$50,000 Emerald Ash Borer reduction grant



Neighborhood Tree Planting-Country Club Manor

Flood Control

The flood control maintenance operations maintained the channel corridor and reservoirs to allow the passage of flood events minimizing damage to homes and businesses and to maintain the pathways, amenities and lands adjacent to the reservoirs, Zumbro River, Bear Creek, Cascade Creek, Willow Creek and Silver Creek. Significant flooding events resulting in a FEMA disaster declaration occurred on 21 September 2010. In 2010 the Parks, Forestry and Flood Control operations maintained 18 miles of recreational trail, 450 decorative light fixtures, 4,900 trees and shrubs and mowed 155 acres of turf.



Wither's Sport Complex 21 September

Flood Control 2010 Highlights

- ◆ Removed volunteer vegetation, regarded and revegetated lot along Cascade Creek
- ◆ Overlayed 4,000' of Bear Creek trail
- ◆ Painted project railings
- ◆ Repaired embankment erosions where trails were threatened as result of September high water
- ◆ Trail bridge over Th 14 constructed (Public Works administered project)



Soldier's Field Freedom Shrine